

To whom it may concern:

I ask that you reject the NAB's petition 04-160, The Twin Cities (Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN) has long suffered under the influence of media giants. Companies such as Clear Channel Communications, which owns 6 local radio stations and numerous live music outlets, have stifled music variety greatly. I always used to wonder why I could drive a few hours north to Duluth and hear a greater variety of music. Now I know why. Hopefully Duluth has not suffered the same fate as the Twin Cities.

After becoming frustrated with Cities 97, KQQL, etc., I purchased XM radio for my car. This has been an incredible experience, hearing an incredible number of new songs and artists, as well as older songs that are no longer played locally. I was so impressed that I bought a second XM unit for my other car.

For your information, I have purchased over twenty music CD's in the two months since becoming an XM radio subscriber - due only to listening to XM radio.

The last straw for me was Cities 97 and their 90 minutes of commercial free time, twice a day. They mercilessly plugged themselves, saying their call sign in one form or another, or plugging the Fine Line Cafe (owned by Clear Channel) about every 15 to 30 seconds when not playing music, which wasn't often.

Now the National Association of Broadcasters would like to keep XM Radio out of the local weather and traffic scene. This is ridiculous. Let Clear Channel compete and actually serve the public, instead of legislating their way to victory.

The media mega-mergers have done much to hurt consumers, especially in the content of what they can listen to. Please don't let this legislation stifle things even more.